



## **STAFF REPORT**

**Meeting Date:** June 21, 2016  
**To:** Honorable Mayor & City Council  
**From:** Mark Cuneo, City Engineer  
Aaron Kunz, Deputy Director of Transportation  
**Subject:** North Santa Monica Boulevard Reconstruction Project

---

### **RECOMMENDATION**

This report provides an update on the North Santa Monica Boulevard Reconstruction project and staff's plans to bring forward for City Council's consideration the award of both a construction contract and a construction management professional services agreement at the July 19, 2016 City Council meeting.

### **INTRODUCTION**

The North Santa Monica Boulevard Reconstruction Project (from Wilshire Boulevard to Doheny Drive) was advertised on April 29, 2016. Proposals/bids for the construction project were due on June 16, 2016. The scope of work includes reconstruction of the entire roadway between Doheny Drive and Wilshire Boulevard. Additionally, staff issued a Request for Proposal (RFP) for construction management services for the project on June 2, 2016. Proposals were due on June 20, 2016.

As directed by City Council, staff is working with the Traffic & Parking Commission to develop traffic mitigation measures to minimize intrusion into residential areas and maintain access to the City's business community to the extent possible. Traffic mitigation measures fall into three primary categories: 1) public notification/outreach; 2) parking strategies to maintain business triangle access on South Santa Monica Boulevard; and 3) neighborhood traffic mitigation toolbox.

### **DISCUSSION**

Per Council direction at the July 21, 2015 City Council Study Session, Psomas prepared bid documents for the Reconstruction of Santa Monica Boulevard between Doheny Drive

and Wilshire Boulevard. The core scope of work includes the reconstruction of North Santa Monica Boulevard to rebuild the deteriorating roadway, upgrade the drainage system, replacement of existing curbs and gutters, installation of a new street lighting system on the north side of the street, relocation and upgrade of traffic signals, ADA access upgrades, and replacement of sidewalks and driveways. The City Council also approved the following enhancements to the project:

- Bio-swales along the north side of the Boulevard at various locations
- Widening of the Boulevard on the south side between Canon Drive and Wilshire Boulevard by 2'-4" for a consistent curb to curb roadway width and potential future bicycle lanes

Additionally, the construction contractor will be responsible for developing a construction schedule, phasing plan and worksite traffic control plans and signage. The scope of work for the contractor also includes allowances for "toolbox" traffic control measures and advanced warning message boards intended to mitigate traffic intrusion into residential areas.

The bid documents were reviewed by City Engineering and Operations staff. Additionally, a Consultant (AndersonPenna Partners) was retained to provide an objective review of the bid documents. Their scope included a bidding and constructability review to identify potential value engineering solutions, ambiguities, conflicts and/or omissions in the bid documents.

The project was advertised for bids on April 29, 2016. Staff has issued several addendums during bidding to incorporate changes and clarification to the bid documents and to respond to questions raised by perspective bidders/contractors. Addendums have been issued for the following:

- Updating street lighting plans/communication infrastructure plans.
- Provide bio-swale/landscape plans coordinated with Beverly Gardens Park design.
- Provide soil sampling test results (testing for arsenic under the roadway).

The bid due date was June 16, 2016. Upon receiving the bids, the City's Engineering Division began the process of evaluating the bids and anticipates presenting a recommendation to the City Council to award the construction contract to the lowest responsible bidder on July 19, 2016.

For a project of this magnitude, staff recommends that a construction management firm is retained (separately from the construction contractor) to manage/oversee the contractor, provide quality assurance (inspection and materials testing services), staffing for community relations (include a dedicated project phone line), and support the public information/outreach program. Staff issued a Request for Proposal (RFP) for construction management services on June 2, 2016 and proposals were due on June 20, 2016. As selection of a construction manager is qualifications based, staff plans to form an evaluation committee comprised of a Public Works Commission representative, a Traffic and Parking Commission representative and staff from Engineering and Transportation to review proposals and make a recommendation for the selection of the

most qualified firm. It is anticipated that staff will present a recommendation for the selection of a construction management firm to the City Council on July 19, 2016.

### ***Traffic Mitigation***

The City Council assigned the Traffic & Parking Commission to review potential traffic mitigation measures and provide recommendations to the City Council. The City Council reviewed the Traffic & Parking Commission recommendations on November 17, 2015 and concurred that the Traffic & Parking Commission's recommendations should be incorporated into the contractor bid documents with details to be coordinated once the contractor and construction management are selected. The Traffic & Parking Commission's recommendations fall in three categories:

- Public Notification/Outreach – recommended strategies to advise the public of traffic delays and routes to maintain access to City businesses.
- Traffic Mitigation Toolbox – a summary of strategies to address traffic intrusion into residential areas.
- South Santa Monica Boulevard parking strategies – provides parking strategies on South Santa Monica Boulevard to maintain access to the business triangle. The Traffic & Parking Commission recommended removal of parking on both sides of South Santa Monica Boulevard for the duration of construction. The City Council directed staff to conduct additional public outreach. Staff presented the strategies to the Chamber of Commerce Government Affairs Committee. Many businesses along South Santa Monica Boulevard expressed strong concern of removing parking with the possible exception of peak hour. Staff recommends additional public outreach and consideration of these strategies after the contractor and construction manager are retained and have developed a specific construction schedule.

### ***City Public Outreach/Coordination with other projects***

With the Santa Monica Boulevard Reconstruction project, Metro Subway Station construction and other infrastructure and private development projects, City staff has formed an inter-department team to develop a public outreach/communications plan and coordinate the projects. Staff envisions 'branding' these multiple projects to coordinate public outreach, including updates for all projects on a single web page. Staff will forward this plan to the City Council at an upcoming City Council meeting.

In advance of these efforts, City staff is providing project updates to all City Commissions, the Chamber of Commerce and other City organizations.

### ***Project Schedule***

The estimated duration of construction is approximately 18 months. Staff will return to City Council approximately 6 weeks after the award of the construction contract and the construction management agreement with an updated project schedule taking into consideration the holiday shopping season and other City activities.

**FISCAL IMPACT**

Funding for the project is available in CIP# 889. A cost estimate was prepared based on the preliminary design cost estimate (reviewed by City Council at the December 2, 2014 Study Session). The cost estimate was revised upward by \$1.9 million per City Council direction on July 21, 2015 to include widening of the boulevard to the south of the roadway between Canon Drive and Wilshire Boulevard and bio-swales for a total cost estimate of \$29.1 million. Cost estimates will be updated upon receipt of the bid documents and construction manager proposals.



George Chavez  
Assistant City Manager/Director of  
Public Works Services

---

Approved By



Susan Healy Keene, AICP  
Community Development Director

---

Approved By